

Town of Simsbury

754 HOPMEADOW STREET

P.O. BOX 495

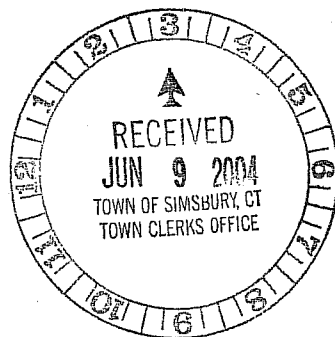
SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Aging and Disability Commission

AGING AND DISABILITY COMMISSION

May 18, 2004

MINUTES



Vice-Chairperson Charlotte Steptoe, in the Blue Room at Eno Memorial Hall, 754 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut, called the meeting to order at 7:05PM. Kathy Fallon was appointed to sit in for Peg Bergethon.

Present: Rickie Bergquist (Staff Consultant), Grace Comeau, Kathy Fallon, Gloria Knierim, Edward LaMontagne, Charlotte Steptoe, Eileen Umpleby, Lynn Veith, and Moira Wertheimer.

Not Present: Peg Bergethon (excused), and John Romano (Board of Selectmen Liaison)

Public Audience: None

Minutes: The Minutes of the April 20, 2004 meeting were accepted.

Reports - Subcommittees/Projects

Disability Subcommittee: Ed reported that the new budget contains a provision benefiting people with disabilities. Specifically, the budget provides funding to support 150 additional people from the housing wait list.

Legislative Subcommittees

Federal: Moira reported that the United States Supreme Court recently held that state governments are liable for ensuring government buildings are accessible to all. In addition, Moira also reported that the Senate passed the new IDEA Act. This Act enables cities and towns to provide educational services for disabled students.

State: Lynn Veith distributed a Medicare Approved Drug Discount Card Tip Sheet. She also noted that the Hartford Social Security Office relocated to 960 Main Street, across

from the old G. Fox building. Sprinkler systems will be mandated in nursing homes beginning in 2005.

Housing Issues: Gloria Knierim reported on an article written in the Hartford Courant that reported that \$3,000,000 has been allocated for housing in Waterbury and Hartford. Specifically, the housing will target the needs of the individuals with multiple disabilities. In addition, Gloria reported that Simsbury's Housing Fair was successful and provided much information for those attending.

Souper Tuesday Luncheons: Grace Comeau reported that approx. 65 people attended April's luncheon. The Commission received \$140.00 in donations.

Ways and Means: Lynn Veith reported that she continues to seek Norris' files.

Senior Center: Rickie reported that 40 participants from the Senior Center raised over \$1300 for the Relay for Life program. There are 100 people registered for May's progressive lunch, and that the housing fair was a big success.

Other: None.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee: Motion made and carried to accept committee's proposed slate of officers. The slate is as follows: Chair, Ed LaMontagne; vice-Chair, Charlotte Steptoe; and Secretary, Moira Wertheimer.

Music for All Ages: No discussion.

New Business:

Picnic in the Park: Will be held on September 29th at the Apple Barn. Peg has begun preparations.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

Fashion Show: Held during October 2004 Souper Tuesday.

Other: Ed reported on a program sponsored by the Easter Seals organization, entitled Transportation Innovations for Seniors. Specifically, in 2003, a partnership of the Beverly Foundation and the Community Transportation Association of America undertook a national survey of innovations for seniors in public and community transit. The purpose of the study was to identify, document, celebrate and disseminate information

regarding innovations in public and community transit. Ed has ordered a copy of their booklet on transportation solutions for caregivers.

Lynn reported that McLean is sponsoring a conference for caregivers on June 4, 2004.

Adjournment: The next meeting is on June 15, 2004. Motion made and carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Moira Wertheimer
Clerk

PGB/mhr
word/data/docs/Aging and Disability minutes